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[ ] 2547-66  
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1 JUN 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Science and Technology

SUBJECT: Contingency Planning for OXCART

REFERENCES: A. Memorandum for the Record, [ ] 2534-66,  
dated 20 May 1966; same subject.

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B. Memorandum for the Director of Recon-  
naissance, CIA, [ ] 2541-66, dated  
26 May 1966, same subject.

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1. Reference B had, as an attachment, four proposed U. S. Government statements to be released in response to queries resulting from an incident or exposure during OXCART deployment and/or operations. They were submitted to the Director of Reconnaissance, CIA, for his review and comments.

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2. The proposed statements relating to queries which might result from the presence of the OXCART aircraft at [ ] or Okinawa were approved, as written. [ ] did, however, have some reservations concerning the scope of the responses proposed in the event of a protest of a successful overflight or loss of an aircraft in denied territory. In accordance with his suggestions, the statements have been rewritten and are attached for your consideration and comments.

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3. As you are aware, working-level officials at the State Department strongly favor a [ ] policy in the event of an incident, however, this concept has had no official sanction at the policy-making level. Should this evolve as an authoritative State Department position, it is recommended that CIA support the policy with the understanding that it will be adhered to without equivocation in the event of a mishap.

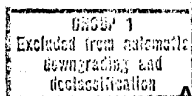
4. If you concur, it is proposed that the prepared statements be submitted to the Interdepartmental Contingency

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Planning Committee for approval. It is assumed that the ICPC subsequently will forward the alternative proposals, with recommendations, to the 303 Committee for a final decision.

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JACK C. LEDFORD  
Brigadier General, USAF  
Director of Special Activities

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Attachment: (1)  
Proposed Statements

SAL/OSA  (1 June 66)

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